

AZ-900 CHEAT SHEET

Microsoft Azure Fundamentals · 2026 edition · 45 min · 40–60 questions · Pass 700/1000

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1 · Exam Facts

Item	Details	Item	Details
Cost	\$99 USD (free/50% off via Virtual Training Days)	Format	40–60 questions, MC / multi-select / drag-drop / hot area
Duration	45 minutes (no case studies or labs)	Passing score	700 out of 1000 (70%)
Domains	Cloud concepts 25–30% · Architecture & services 35–40% · Management & governance 30–35%	Renewal	Never expires (fundamentals cert)

2 · Cloud Concepts

Concept	Key facts
Deployment models	Public (shared, pay-as-you-go) · Private (single org) · Hybrid (public + on-prem) · Multi-cloud (multiple providers)
Benefits	High availability, scalability (vertical = bigger VM / horizontal = more VMs), elasticity (auto scale), fault tolerance, disaster recovery, agility, economies of scale
CapEx vs OpEx	CapEx = upfront hardware purchases · OpEx = pay-as-you-go (consumption-based model)
Service models	IaaS = VMs, you manage OS (most control) · PaaS = App Service, manage only app · SaaS = Microsoft 365, manage only data & access
Shared responsibility	Provider ALWAYS: physical security + infrastructure · Customer ALWAYS: own data + identities · In IaaS customer patches guest OS

3 · Core Azure Services

Category	Services & one-liners
Compute	Virtual Machines (IaaS) · App Service (PaaS web apps) · Functions (serverless, event-driven) · AKS (managed Kubernetes) · ACI (serverless containers) · Virtual Desktop (managed Windows)
Storage	Blob (unstructured; hot/cool/archive tiers) · Files (SMB/NFS shares) · Disks (VM disks) · Queue (messages) · Table (NoSQL key-value) · Redundancy: LRS / ZRS / GRS
Databases	Azure SQL Database (PaaS relational) · Cosmos DB (global multi-model NoSQL) · SQL Managed Instance · Database for MySQL/PostgreSQL
Networking	VNet (isolated network, peering) · Load Balancer (L4) · Application Gateway (L7 + WAF) · VPN Gateway (internet tunnel) · ExpressRoute (private, not over internet) · Traffic Manager (DNS global routing) · DNS · CDN (edge caching)
Identity	Microsoft Entra ID (SSO, MFA, Conditional Access) · RBAC roles: Owner > Contributor > Reader
Monitoring	Azure Monitor (metrics/logs/alerts) · Service Health (service status) · Advisor (recommendations: cost/security/reliability/perf/ops) · Application Insights (web app perf)
AI & IoT	Cognitive Services (pre-built AI APIs) · Machine Learning · IoT Hub · Event Hubs (streaming) · Logic Apps (integration) · Bot Service
Other	Marketplace (pre-built solutions) · Resource Manager (ARM, all operations + templates) · Hierarchy: Management groups → Subscriptions → Resource groups → Resources

4 · Security, Privacy & Compliance

Topic	Key facts
Defense in depth	Layers (outside → inside): Physical → Identity → Perimeter → Network → Compute → Application → Data (data = most protected, always encrypt it)
Zero Trust	3 principles: Verify explicitly · Use least privilege · Assume breach
Security services	NSG (traffic rules) · Azure Firewall (managed firewall) · DDoS Protection · Key Vault (secrets/keys/certs) · Bastion (browser RDP/SSH, no public IP) · Defender for Cloud (secure score, recommendations) · Sentinel (SIEM+SOAR) · PIM (just-in-time admin) · Access reviews

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Topic	Key facts
Governance	Azure Policy (deny/audit/append) · Blueprints (policy+RBAC+templates) · Locks (CanNotDelete / ReadOnly) · Tags (metadata & cost allocation) · Arc (manage on-prem/other clouds)
Compliance	Service Trust Portal (audit reports: ISO 27001, SOC 2) · Microsoft Purview / Compliance Manager (compliance score, GDPR) · Encryption: at rest (default) + in transit (TLS)

4B · AI, Copilot & Responsible AI (2026 refresh)

Service / Concept	Key facts
Azure OpenAI	GPT models via managed Azure API · enterprise security
AI Foundry	Unified platform: build, evaluate & deploy AI solutions and copilots
Azure AI Services	Vision (image/OCR) · Speech (STT/TTS) · Language (sentiment) · Document Intelligence · Content Safety · AI Search (RAG)
Microsoft Copilot in Azure	AI assistant that manages Azure resources via natural language (assists, not replaces)
Prompt engineering / RAG	Craft effective prompts · ground answers in your own data
Responsible AI (6)	Fairness · Reliability & Safety · Privacy & Security · Inclusiveness · Transparency · Accountability

5 · Pricing, SLA & Lifecycle

Topic	Key facts
Cost factors	Resource type & size · region · egress (outbound billed, ingress free) · reservations (1–3 yr, save ~72%) · Hybrid Benefit (reuse Windows/SQL licenses) · Spot VMs (cheap, evictable)
Tools	Pricing Calculator (estimate solution) · TCO Calculator (on-prem vs Azure) · Cost Management + Billing (budgets, alerts, analysis) · Advisor cost (right-sizing)
SLA numbers	Single VM: 99.9% · 2+ VMs in availability set: 99.95% · 2+ VMs across zones: 99.99% · Composite SLA = multiply ($0.999 \times 0.999 \approx 99.8\%$) · breach → service credits
Support plans	Basic (free, billing only) · Developer (non-prod, email) · Standard (24/7 prod) · Professional Direct (proactive, business-critical)
Lifecycle	Private preview → Public preview (no SLA, test only) → General Availability (full SLA) · Plan migrations before retirement dates

6 · Exam Tips (remember these!)

Tip	Why
Answer every question	No penalty for wrong answers — never leave one blank
Watch for NOT / EXCEPT / ALWAYS	Negative words flip the meaning completely
Read explanations on practice tests	Understanding 'why' beats memorizing answers
Practice to 85%+ on mock exams	Real exam = 70% threshold; build a safety margin
Take the case study seriously	It adds ~15–20 min — manage your time

More free resources: 210+ practice questions & 7 timed tests at az900certification.com — plus full study guides, exam cost guide, and a 7-day study plan.